Boston, March 1, 1847.

My dear Henry:

SO A letter from that excellent woman, Mary Brady, brings us the distressing intelligence of your illness at her house; though we are comforted by her assurance, that you seemed to be improving. You labor too abundantly, and are attempting to do too much; and, unless you restrain yourself far more than you have hitherto done, I am afraid you will suddenly break down beyond recovery. By the next steamer, I hope to receive a line from you, announcing your complete restoration.

On returning home, I found I had gained six pounds of flesh — six pounds beyond what I had ever weighed before — notwithstanding all the fatigues and labours of my transatlantic tour. The climate of Old England is much more congenial to me than that of New England. It affects my voice and lungs much more to give one lecture here, than it did to deliver half a dozen abroad. At present, we are all in the enjoyment of health at home. The little babe, which was born unto us on the 11th of Dec. last, and to whom we have given the cherished name of Elizabeth Pease, is a fine little girl, and in a thriving condition. The father of four boys and two girls! think of that! Verily, Garrisonians are multiplying in this pro-slavery land.

I had hoped to write to dear E. Pease by this conveyance, but I have had to scribble so many letters to others, that my time is consumed. I write to you, crowded up to a few moments, and so shall not be able to say the hundredth part of what it is in my heart to utter. When you write to Elizabeth, assure her of my continual remembrance of her. She knows what a sadly delinquent correspondent I am at all times. I hope to hear that she is steadily gaining in health and strength.

I see it announced in the London Nonconformist, that you, and Frederick, and dear George Thompson, contemplate coming to this country in May next. Is it so? The intelligence seems too good to be true. But a hearty reception awaits each and all of you, whenever you shall come — the sooner, the better, unless the exigencies of our cause abroad require still further delay. The Board of Managers of the Massachusetts Anti-Slavery Society, and the Executive Committee of the American Society, have unanimously voted to pay all the expenses that our friend Thompson may occur, in case he shall visit us, which it is earnestly hoped he will not fail to do at no distant day. Bring him with you on your return; and, if E. P. be well enough, try to induce her to come over at the same time. She ought to see the new world, and to give the friends of humanity here a chance to express their regard for her personally.

Let me know by the next steamer, if you can, definitely, as to the time you and Frederick think of returning. We ought to be apprised beforehand, in order to be prepared to give you an official reception. If you could arrive here in season to attend our New-England convention, (and in order to do this, you would have to embark in the steamer of the 4th of May,) it would be highly gratifying, and most timely. But when we parted, you spoke of August as being the month in which you expected to return.

I presume all your family are well, as I hear nothing to the contrary. The same may be said of Frederick's family. I am sorry that I have no time to send him a letter by the Cambrian. Heaven bless and sustain him in all his labours.

My dear Thompson must also be chanted out of a long epistle that is due to him. I wrote to him a letter of sympathy, as soon as you communicated to me the painful tidings of the death of his charming little girl; but I have received no reply, as yet, and am not sure that he got my letter.

I see that Henry Clapp is endeavouring to make use of our old organization friends abroad, that he spoke at the meeting of the Glasgow Emancipation Society, and that he was to address the people of that city again on the subject of slavery. He is a wily creature, with considerable talent, but not to be trusted or encouraged. No one is more bitterly opposed to us than he is, in design and spirit.

We are making decided progress in our Disunion movement. Our Legislature, now in session, has before it many petitions, numerously signed by legal voters, asking that body to take measures for the peaceable secession of Massachusetts from the Union. We are surprised to find how many are prepared for this measure.

In Congress, at its present session, the subject of slavery, in connexion with our reforious war with Mexico, has been the chief topic of discussion; and in the House of Representatives, the Slave Power has been defeated by a majority of ten votes, on a measure vital to its existence. By the Wilmot proviso, no slavery is to be allowed in any new territory that may be annexed to the Union. In the Senate, that proviso will be voted down, of course, because there is a majority of slaveholding Senators in that body; but the triumph in the House is most unexpected, and demonstrates that anti-slavery is marching forward with irresistible power. "Read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest" the speech of John C. Calhoun, in the Senate, on this subject, as contained in the last Liberator. The Napoleon of slavery is anticipating a Waterloo in the future, and at no distant day.

Helen sends much sympathy and love to you, as well as many of your other friends. As ever, pursuing this, in a letter for you from an indefatigable coadjutor Stephen S. Foster. Love to every body.

Ever yours, Wm. Lloyd Garrison.